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- NEWS RELEASE -

SECRETARY OF THE STATE UNVEILS THIS YEAR'S STATE REGISTER AND MANUAL AT DEDICATION CEREMONY

SECRETARY BYSIEWICZ DEDICATES BLUE BOOK TO CONNECTICUT'S TOP STEM CELL RESEARCHERS AND SCIENTISTS

Hartford: Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz unveiled Connecticut's new Register and Manual at a special dedication ceremony at the State Capitol today, October 3rd, 2007. The Register and Manual – also referred to as the Blue Book – was dedicated to stem cell scientists and researchers at the University of Connecticut, Yale University, and Wesleyan University.

"The State Register and Manual is the official record of Connecticut and so it makes perfect sense to recognize a group of people who are forging Connecticut's reputation as a national leader in stem cell research," said Bysiewicz. "These scientists are giving us all hope that one day the most debilitating diseases can be cured. In addition, these pioneers are helping to shape Connecticut's economic future by inspiring entrepreneurialism and innovation."

The honorees are: Dr. Ren-He Xu, Associate Professor of Genetics and Developmental Biology and Director of the UConn Stem Cell Core Facility; Dr. David W. Rowe, Professor of Genetics and Developmental Biology at the UConn Health Center; Dr. Jerry Yang, Director of the UConn Center for Regenerative Biology; Dr. Haifan Lin, Professor of Cell Biology and Director of the

Yale Stem Cell Program; Dr. Janice R. Naegle, Chair and Professor of Biology and Neuroscience at Wesleyan University; Dr. Laura Grabel, Fisk Professor of Natural Science at Wesleyan University. These honorees were presented with a signed copy of the 2007 Connecticut State Register and Manual.

"As a stem cell researcher in Connecticut, I am extremely honored to be here," said Dr. Haifan Lin. "The state support has already allowed Yale University, for the first time, to start a human embryonic stem cell research center."

The 2007 Register and Manual was also dedicated to the memory of the 5 Connecticut soldiers who died while fighting in the war on terror between November 2006 and May 2007. The soldiers are: Jason Hamill, Joseph Phaneuf, Richard Ford, Stephen Richardson, and Keith Heidtman.

This is the 120th year that the Secretary of the State's Office has been publishing the State Register and Manual. More than 10,000 copies are produced annually and they are available for purchase by the public.